

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 00451 041501Z

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO USDOC WASHDC

SECSTATE WASHDC 2487

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EEWT, BU

SUBJECT: BULGARIAN-US ECONOMIC COUNCIL MEETING

REF: A) STATE 038440; B) SOFIA 0445

1. PURSUANT TO AMBASSADOR'S MARCH 4 MEETING WITH FOREIGN TRADE DEPUTY MINISTER BASHIKAROV (REF B), EMBASSY SUGGESTS FOLLOWING ACTIONS NEEDED TO BE TAKEN TO ASSURE USEFUL VISIT OF BULGARIAN BUSEC DELEGATION (REF B) TO US FOR MARCH 14-15 SESSION AND SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS.

2. APPOINTMENTS SHOULD BE MADE AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF USDOC AND DEPT FOR BASHIKAROV, TOROMANOV, MLADENOV, AND AVRAMOV (WHO IS ASSISTANT TO DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ANDREI LUKANOV) TO DISCUSS GENERAL ASPECTS OF FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF US/BULGARIAN TRADE. (ALL FOUR SPEAK ENGLISH.) BASHIKAROV, IN PARTICULAR, IS BRIGHT, RISING YOUNG BULGARIAN OFFICIAL WITH GOOD FUTURE. DEPT MAY WISH ALSO TO CONSIDER WHETHER OFFICIAL OF EITHER DEPARTMENT OR TREASURY SHOULD MEET WITH PETKOV, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT OF FOREIGN TRADE BANK.

3. USDOC, WITH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, SHOULD ALERT SPECIFIC US FIRMS OF MEMBERSHIP OF DELEGATION. FOR EXAMPLE, ATANAS MARKOV, DIRECTOR OF MINISTRY OF MACHINE-BUILDING

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PAGE 02 SOFIA 00451 041501Z

AND METALLURGY, IS HEAD OF BULGARIA'S NEW THIRD METALLURGICAL COMPLEX. DIMITAR STANEV, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF RODOPAIMPEX, IS RELEVANT OFFICIAL FOR COMPANIES INTERESTED IN MULTIMILLION-DOLLAR SILISTRA VERTICALLY INTEGRATED AGRO-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX.

4. AMBASSADOR INFORMED BASHIKAROV THAT US SIDE WOULD

HAVE MESSAGE OF GREETINGS SIGNED BY SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
(REF A). BASHIKAROV RESPONDED THAT IN ABSENCE OF US
PRESIDENTIAL-LEVEL MESSAGE, BULGARIAN MESSAGE WOULD THUS
COME FROM MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE KHRISTO KHRISTOV.
(REQUEST BE INFORMED OF OUTCOME OF US SECTION'S REQUEST
TO VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE TO ADDRESS MEETING.)

5. COMMENT: EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT HIGH QUALITY OF BUL-
GARIAN REPRESENTATION REFLECTS SERIOUS GOB INTEREST IN
SUCCESS OF THIS SECOND MEETING OF BUSEC. SUCCESSFUL VISIT
TO US BY THESE OFFICIALS CAN REPRESENT MOST USEFUL STEP
FORWARD IN GENERAL US/BULGARIAN BILATERAL RELATIONS AS
WELL AS OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE RECENT YEARS' STEADY RISE
IN US EXPORTS TO BULGARIA INTO FUTURE.
HERZ

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Message Attributes

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